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by Eckhart Beatty
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WHERE TO BUY
GM EV1
GM EV1

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Our Experts Say ...
This space-age electric craft is lean, mean and clean.

Eager to see heads turn as you whisk down the boulevard as noise-free as a sailboat? The environmentally conscious set will be the first sector of the population to go engine-free. The EV1 is GM's flagship electric vehicle, the first and most efficient mass-production electric vehicle, produced at Saturn's Springhill, Tenn., facilities.

Plenty o' Pop

The newest EV1 offers both a high-capacity lead-acid battery and an optional nickel-metal-hydride design, which effectively doubles the mileage range of the previous year's first-generation battery. Battery life is easily within the round-trip driving range of the average commuter. Recharging takes about three hours. And since the electric cars are offered only as leases, you need not worry about missing out on newer and

better battery technology as it develops -- or about how to dispose of its batteries when they eventually wear out.

No-Compromise Features
With a sleek, curvy profile reminiscent of "The Jetsons" cartoon series, this aerodynamic two-seater provides impressive acceleration of 0 to 60 in less than nine seconds. Amenities include dual front air bags, a heat-pump-powered air conditioner, antilock brakes, power windows and doors, and cruise control. Saturn's world-class reputation for safe and efficient cars extends to the EV1.
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Style Pick

GM EV1
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GM EV1

And you thought electric cars wouldn't be cool. This one's stylin' inside and out.
Email this GM to...
base price lease only, $499/mo. plus $499 at lease signing
dealer invoice n/a
standard transmission automatic
engine size n/a
horsepower 102 kW (137 @ 7,000 rpm)
mpg (city/highway) 30/25 (kW/hr. per 100 mi.)
best features electric.
good range.
space-age look.
Manufacturer:
product info picture, specifications
home page General Motors

Comparable Products

If you're in the market for an electric vehicle, you might want to do some comparison shopping. Ford offers its electric Ranger. Honda has discontinued its electric vehicle program but continues to service its existing leases. Several manufacturers, including GM, are actively developing such advanced technologies as hydrogen-fuel cells; the Mercedes Necar is expected to become available in 2004.

Even More

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GM EV1
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